

### Council's Role in Public Protection

The Council of the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Manitoba (the College) is the governing body for the 450-plus audiologists and speech-language pathologists registered to practice in the province. Council is composed of nine members: two audiologists, four speech-language pathologists, and three public representatives appointed by the Minister of Health. The Council is accountable to the Minister of Health and has a fiduciary duty to operate in good faith and in the best interests of the College to fulfill its mandated objects.

The role of Council is to serve the public interest and improve the quality of care that each profession provides. Council makes decisions to establish and enforce regulations, by-laws, policies, and programs that protect the public interest and support the College mandate as outlined in *the Regulated Health Professions Act*, (RHPA).

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists may contribute by bringing their knowledge, skill and experience to Council. Council involvement provides registrants with rewarding opportunities to participate in both public protection and the continuing development of the audiology and speech-language pathology professions.

There are two electoral districts: District 1 is the urban area within the Winnipeg Perimeter; District 2 is the rural area outside the Winnipeg Perimeter. Elections take place two of every three years, with three Council members being elected each time. All eligible audiologists and speech-language pathologists on the regulated register may be nominated and may vote in Council elections in the district in which they reside.

### Council Member Skills and Knowledge

All members of Council are expected to be effective contributors. The desired skills and background include:

- the ability to work in a group to make informed decisions.
- the ability to understand and follow democratic processes.
- a willingness to devote time and effort to the work of the Council.
- good communication skills.
- an understanding of the mandate of the College to serve and protect the public.

Council Members should be aware of the Mission, Core Functions, and Mandate of the College and its regulations and by-laws.

### Council Duties

Council Members execute their duties in the public interest. Council meets to address policy issues which support governance of the College.

In addition to attending Council meetings, Council members serve on at least two of the statutory or

standing committees of the College. According to by-law, each committee is chaired by a member of Council. The number of committee meetings per year varies according to committee workload.

Council Members who are officers of the College may be requested to represent the College on external organizations or committees. This includes additional preparation and meetings and may require travel.

### **Term of Office**

Each elected Council member serves for a three-year term. Elected Council members may serve a maximum three consecutive terms for a total of nine consecutive years.

### **Annual Time Commitment**

Council meetings are held four times a year (March, June, September, December). Meetings are typically held on Saturday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Each committee meets approximately four times annually. Meetings are typically two to four hours in length, scheduled between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Council members also spend time preparing for meetings.

### **Meetings**

Council meetings are held virtually, or at the College office, 112B Scurfield Blvd., Winnipeg MB.

### **Council Orientation**

Council members receive orientation regarding the role, mandate and governance framework of the College; as well, there are other opportunities for Council members to participate in learning sessions which address the fundamentals of governance, professional regulation, and the roles and responsibilities of Council.

### **Council Member Reimbursement**

Council members are eligible to receive remuneration for time while engaged in Council and committee meetings in accordance with CASLPM By-Law Schedule 1. As well, Council members are reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred while attending meetings according to the Expense Reimbursement Policy.